

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 18588

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, EAG, EAID, EFIN

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. ACCORDING TO WORLD FOOD COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHN HANNAH, AMBASSADOR SUDEARY OF SAUDI ARABIA, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM CONSULTATION WITH HIS GOVERNMENT, TRIED HARD TO PERSUADE HIS GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD), BUT IT AGREED ONLY TO DIRECT ITS REPRESENTATIVE TO OPEC FUND TO SEEK AGREEMENT THAT THE OPEC FUND WOULD INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTION TO MEET HALF OF THE SHORTAGE BELOW \$1 MILLION. FRIDAY EVENING SUDEARY LEARED AND INFORMED HANNAH THAT THE SAUDI ARABIAN REPRESENTATIVE HAD RAISED THIS IN THE OPEC FUND MEETING WITHOUT IMMEDIATE RESULT, THE OTHER COUNTRIES FINDING IT NECESSARY TO GO BACK TO GOVERNMENTS FOR INSTRUCTIONS. DR. HANNAH PLANSTO TALK WITH WILL OF GERMANY ABOUT POSSIBLE INCREASE IN THE OECD COUTRIES' CONTRIBUTIONS.

2. SUDEARY HAS INFORMED U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AND DR. HANNAH THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO PRESENT HIM AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF IFAD. (COMMENT: SUDEARY ANTEDATES SHIHATA OF KUWAIT IN WORK ON DEVELOPMENT OF FUND, AND IS AN AGRICULTURAL SPECIALIST WITH

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MENT OF FUND, AND IS AN AGRICULTURAL SPECIALIST WITH

SOME EXPERIENCE IN BANKING. HE OPERATES IN LOW-KEY FASHION BUT HAS STRONG BACKING OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND HAS MUCH INFLUENCE IN GROUP-77 IN ROME, WHILE SHIGATA IS EXTREMELY FORCEFUL PERSONALITY WHO HELPED PUT IFAD TOGETHER IN LATER MEETINGS IN 1976. IN U.S. REPRESENTATIVE'S OPINION, U.S. POSITION SHOULD AWAIT DECISION BY OPEC COUNTRIES ON CANDIDATES. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE COUNSELED SUDEARY TO INFORM SYG WALDEHIM OF HIS CANDIDACY AND PERHAPS HAVE HIS COUNTRY'S EMBASSIES INFORM OF HIS CANDIDACY.) VOLPE

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